Serial No.: 10/049,902

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) An amorphous fine silica particle made by flame hydrolysis of a silicon compound, wherein said silica particle has an average particle diameter (median diameter) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μ m, a specific surface area by BET of from 5 to 30 m²/g, and a dispersion coefficient (z) of less than 40 $\underline{40\%}$ as shown in the following formula [I],

$$z = Y/2X$$
 [I] $z = (Y/2X) \times 100\%$ [I]

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A filler of an epoxy molding compound, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A filler for anti-blocking of a plastic film or sheet, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): An external additive for a toner, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A surface protection layer or an electric charge transportation layer of a photo conductor of an electronic photograph, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Serial No.: 10/049,902

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) An amorphous fine silica particle made by a flame hydrolysis of a silicon compound, wherein said silica particle has an average particle diameter (median size) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μ m, a specific surface area by BET of from 5 to 30 m²/g, a dispersion coefficient (z) of less than 40 40% as shown in the following formula [I], and an absolute value of triboelectrostatic charge to the specific surface area by BET is more than 20 μ c/m²

$$Z = Y/2X$$
 [I] $z = (Y/2X) \times 100\%$

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6, wherein said silica particle is surface-treated with a silane coupling agent, an organo-polysiloxane or a combination thereof.

Claim 8 (Original): The amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6, wherein said silica particle is surface-treated by a dry method.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A development agent for an electronic photograph, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A surface protection layer material of a photo conductor, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A material of an electric charge transportation layer, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Serial No.: 10/049,902

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A process for producing an amorphous fine silica particle, said process comprising

leading a gaseous silicon compound into a flame to be hydrolyzed to form said particle,

maintaining said silica particle for a time at a temperature greater than the melting point of silica, and

forming said amorphous fine silica particle having an average particle diameter (median size) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μm and a specific surface area of from 5 to 30 m²/g,

wherein a flame temperature is greater than the melting point of silica and a silica concentration in the flame (v) is more than 0.25kg/Nm³.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the silica concentration in the flame (v) is from 0.25 to 1.0kg/Nm³.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein a residence time (t) in the flame of the silica particle is from 0.02 to 0.30 seconds.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, further comprising,

controlling a specific surface area (S), a median size (r), a silica concentration in the flame (v), and a staying time in the flame (t), according to the following formula [II] or [III], respectively.

$$S = 3.52 (v \cdot t)^{-0.4}$$
 [II]

$$r = 1.07 (v \cdot t)^{0.4}$$
 [III]